

THE TIMES.



"Between my government and a foreign nation, I never ask a question: MY GOVERNMENT IS ALWAYS RIGHT."—Gen. Taylor.

—For President—
General Zachary Taylor.

For Governor,
Major James S. Rollins,
of Boone.

For Lieut. Governor,
Gen. Nathaniel W. Watkins,
of Cape Girardeau.

FAYETTE:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1848.

TELEGRAPHIC MEETING.

We have been requested to state that there will be a TELEGRAPHIC MEETING in this place, on Monday, the 6th day of March next.

ENLARGED.

The "Democrat" made its appearance on Monday morning, enlarged and much improved in appearance—and from this fact, and the lively tone of our neighbor, we should judge his friends were giving him the right kind of support. We are always pleased to see the craft prosperous and happy; for it is but rarely they get a due quantum of "sunshine"—but ever an overplus of "showers." We commend the "Democrat" to the favorable consideration and more extended patronage of its political friends.

TELEGRAPHIC DATES.—It would take a "Philadelphia Lawyer" to comprehend the dates of the Telegraphic Despatches of the St. Louis press. So far, the telegraphic matter has been so confused, at best—while the dates confound confusion.

Hon. J. R. Poinsett, of South Carolina, has written a letter on the subject of our relations with Mexico. He is in favor of withdrawing the troops to such line of boundary as may be determined on or desired, and defending that line, until the matter can be adjusted by purchase or otherwise.

TWENTY-SECOND FEBRUARY.

The friends of Gen. Taylor are to hold a mass meeting in St. Louis, on the 22d inst., to nominate him for the Presidency. A similar meeting is to be held on the same day, in New York. On that day the "Father of his Country" was born—and the great and unparalleled battle of Buena Vista was begun, the ever-glorious and successful termination of which, "broke the heart" of the enemy. An appropriate day, in these degenerate times, for the good and true of all parties to commune together for the common good and safety of the country.

We observe the "Brunswick" has commenced the publication of a series of communications on Agricultural subjects, which were originally prepared for, and published in, the "Times." The "Brunswick's" correspondent is a bold thief, and by studying well the stolen matter, he may learn something of Agriculture—as the writer really is what the rogue professes to be.

GEN. TAYLOR.

It is not to be wondered at, that the locofocos—the "spoilsmen"—those who are so devoted to party—those who are ready to denounce every independent movement—those who discountenance any and every step that is not prompted by party schemes and directed by party machinery—we say it is not to be wondered at, that such persons are alarmed at the great and growing popularity of General Taylor.

The old Hero has been nominated for the Presidency, by formal Conventions or Legislative bodies, in the States of Iowa, Illinois, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee and Alabama—and by more than two hundred public meetings of the people, held in various parts of the Union.

Again: Look at the press of the country. No man ever received a more numerous or respectable support, from the press, than has Gen. Taylor. In the Key-stone State, old Pennsylvania, there are thirty presses in favor of the Hero of Buena Vista, for President!

Well may the spoilsman tremble!

IOWA.—The Iowa Legislature was to adjourn on the 25th ult. No election of United States Senators was had—the House declining to go into an election. This movement on the part of the whigs, we suppose, was had, in part, to pay off the locofocos for not going into an election last year, when there was a chance of electing a whig. The whigs then had a majority on joint ballot, and the locos would not meet them. Vice versa, now.

The LADY'S BOOK for the current month has come to hand. Advertisement next week.

GEN. TAYLOR IN ALABAMA.

We have received the proceedings of a Taylor mass meeting, held Jan. 8th, at Montgomery, Ala., in the State House of that place. The meeting was very large and enthusiastic; it filled the Hall of the representatives and senate chamber. Hon. James E. Belser presided.

The meeting was addressed by Hon. Messrs. Belser, J. C. Alford, A. F. Porter and others. Mr. Murphy of Greene, proposed resolutions nominating Gen. Taylor for the Presidency, and eulogizing his character and services which were unanimously adopted. A State Central Committee and a Corresponding Committee were constituted.

THE NEW GEORGIA SENATOR.—V. Johnson has been appointed by the Governor of Georgia, to represent that State in the Senate of the United States, in the place of Mr. Colquitt, resigned.

"BLACKWOOD" for December, has been on our table for some time. The contents of this number are very entertaining. We commend the work to our readers. The next number commences a new volume—a very favorable time to subscribe: for terms, &c., see advertisement in another column.

"As You Were!"—The National Intelligencer, of the 20th inst., referring to some Telegraphic reports which had been published in the Philadelphia Ledger, says: Late last evening, we learnt authentically (in confirmation of the inimical movement of the Administration against Gen. Scott, but in contradiction of the Ledger Telegraphic despatch) that Gen. Towson, Paymaster General, did set out on Monday night last for Mexico, where he is, in conjunction with General Cushing and General Butler, of the Volunteer forces, to form a Court of Inquiry, ordered by the President of the United States, on Gen. Scott—a very singular court, by the way, to sit in judgment on the General-in-Chief of the army. Truly, "The counsels of the wise are plain, but the counsels of the vain baffle the sense."

REDUCTION OF THE ARMY.—In the House of Representatives, on the 18th, Mr. Cooke of Tennessee, gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to repeal so much of the first section of an act approved June 18, 1846, as authorizes the President of the United States, when the war with Mexico shall be terminated by a treaty of peace, to select from the number of Major Generals and Brigadier Generals then in service "the number to be retained without regard to the date of their commissions."

JAMES CORNELIUS, who escaped from the jail in this place some time since, was taken recently in Schuyl county,—brought back and placed in his old quarters, on Thursday.

TERRIBLE STEAMBOAT DISASTER.—Deplorable loss of life.—The New Orleans Picayune, of the 20th inst. says: By the arrival of the Child Harold yesterday, we learned from her officers and passengers of another terrible disaster, by which probably forty lives were lost. The steamboat Yallahusha, from Red river for this port with a full cargo of cotton, was entirely destroyed by fire the night of Tuesday last, the 18th inst. The catastrophe occurred about 9 o'clock, when opposite the College below Donaldsonville.

The National Intelligencer expresses the opinion that the Ten Regiment Bill will not pass Congress.

The Arkansas papers announce the death of Col. James McKissack, United States agent for the Cherokees. He died at Fort Gibson, on the 12th ult.

BLUNDERING BY MILLIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury, says the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore American, in his letter of the 19th inst., has sent a report to the House of Representatives, which was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means at the last moment preceding the adjournment, which communicates a mistake in the estimates previously given of four millions of dollars. The blunder has caused quite a sensation among the few who know it, and will cause a warm debate in the House.

THE WASHINGTON UNION AND THE DEMOCRACY OF NEW YORK.—Speaking of the beautiful manner in which the Democrats agree to disagree in New York, the Union says:

"But we are sometimes almost forced to despair of the Empire State. Will she ally her feuds? Will the Democratic party harmonize and co-operate together? If not, we must try and do without her at the next election, and to elect a Republican President, without her cooperation and her vote. Present arrangements would indicate this most unpleasant conclusion."

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.—On the 18th ult., P. O. Farrar (Whig) was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, by a majority of two votes.

The Whigs of Clinton, we learn, intend to run that staunch and "well built" Whig, Thomas E. Birch, Esq., for the Legislature. He will distance any competitor.—Liberty Tribune.

BY TELEGRAPH.

FOR THE REPUBLICAN.

THIRTIETH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, January 23.

At 12 o'clock, the Vice President called the Senate to order.

Pursuant to notice, Mr. Ashley, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill for extending the jurisdiction of the United States Courts over navigable waters.

Mr. Bagby submitted for consideration, a resolution declaring the right to acquire territory by conquest, and denying the right of Congress to prohibit slavery in territory thus acquired.

Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill providing for the establishment of suitable quarters at New Orleans, for sick and disabled soldiers.

On motion, the Senate laid aside the morning business, and proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day—"Ten Regiment Bill."

Mr. Clark spoke in strong terms of opposition to the war policy.

Mr. Crittenden asked Mr. Cass whether or not Gen. Scott had been suspended from his command in Mexico, and Gen. Worth relieved from arrest?

Mr. Cass replied that both were true; and further stated, that Gen. Butler being the second in point of rank, would assume the command of the army in Mexico.

Mr. Crittenden expressed his utter astonishment at the course of the administration in this matter. He regretted it had been done.

Mr. Dix has the floor to-morrow.

House.—After transacting the morning business, the House went into Committee of the Whole, and took up the President's message refusing to comply with the request of the House, to be furnished with copies of instructions given to Mr. Slidell, while minister to Mexico.

Mr. Bedinger occupied the House in justification of the President for withholding the desired information. He was warm and earnest in his defence of the message.

Mr. Green of Mo., defended the President with ability. Adjourned.

Senate, Jan. 24.—A debate sprung up between Messrs. Baldwin and Hannegan, upon a resolution introduced by the former gentleman, calling for copies of Mr. Wise's correspondence relative to the recent difficulties with Brazil.

The consideration of the Ten Regiment bill was resumed. Mr. Butler expressed his convictions that, if Gen. Taylor had not advanced from Corpus Christi, the Mexicans would have remained beyond the Rio Grande.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Sevier, Foote, Pearce, Jeff. Davis, and Clayton.

House.—Proceedings unimportant.

Senate, Jan. 25.—Mr. Yulee, from Naval Committee, reported a bill for the relief of the widows and orphans of the crew of the brig Somers.

Pursuant to notice, Mr. Benton asked and obtained leave to introduce a joint resolution, authorizing the appointment of a committee to inquire into the value and extent of the liabilities incurred by Lt. Col. Fremont, whilst in California.

The consideration of the Ten Regiment bill was resumed. Mr. Phelps spoke at some length in opposition to it, showing the enormous expenditures and vast public debt which would necessarily be contracted by a further prosecution of the war.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.

The Democrats of both houses of Congress have resolved, in caucus, to hold their National Convention on the 4th Monday in May, at Baltimore.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 29.

There has been an arrival from Yucatan, bringing dates to the 25th ult. Affairs in that state are represented as being in a most deplorable condition. It is stated that they propose sending commissioners to Washington, to treat for annexation to the United States.

The U. S. ship Brandywine was at Oukahye, on the 20th of November last.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 29, 9, p. m.

Wilson's plain machine building, situated on the river bank, above First street, was destroyed by fire last night.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 30.

The monopoly Telegraph schemes are being blown up in Tennessee. The bill granting equal rights to all Telegraphers, passed "like a flash" through the House, and is now before the Senate.

It is not Gen. Butler, of Kentucky, but Col. Butler of the Louisiana Volunteers, that is to act as a member of the court of inquiry for the trial of Gen. Scott. He is a Locofoco. Gen. Towson, too, we learn, is a Locofoco. So all the members of the court, Towson, Butler, and Cushing, are Locofocos—and one of them a very dirty one. The public can judge what chance the whig commander in chief is likely to stand before such a court.

Gen. Butler, of Kentucky, as we learn from the announcement of Mr. Cass in the United States Senate, is now to be commander-in-chief of the armies in Mexico. The functionaries at Washington, begrudging to Gen. Taylor and General Scott, the glory won by them in Mexico, no doubt determined that a Locofoco general should have the next chance—so that he may be able, if occasion require, to take a hand against the Whig military candidate in the Presidential election.—One important fact however, it seems to us, must inevitably prove fatal to the Administration's calculations in this matter. All the glory that was to be won in Mexico is won. The country is conquered. Nothing is left for Gen. Scott's successor to do but to collect the taxes, superintend the working of mines, and perhaps fight occasionally a score or so of miserable guerrillas—employments in which hardly enough glory can be won to constitute a respectable amount of capital for a Presidential candidate.—Lou. Journal.

GEN. TAYLOR—ANY WHERE.—A right specimen of a free man, who dares to think for himself, on hearing it suggested that the President would send Gen. Taylor back to Mexico to be President of that country remarked in our hearing: "I don't care where Mr. Polk may land him; the people will find him, if he is in the land of the living, when election day comes round." Such we believe to be the popular will of the country, whatever may be said by Whig or Democrat.—Norfolk Herald.

THE CONQUEST OF ALL MEXICO.

—In the Senate, on the 17th, Mr. Mangum asked for the consideration of the following resolution submitted by him a few days previous:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to lay before the Senate all the plans, estimates, and calculations presented by General Scott, as in his opinion best adapted to attain the objects of the war; and his opinion touching the military means necessary to accomplish the objects of our Government, in any and all the alternative views that have been considered by the Executive or suggested by Gen. Scott to bring the war with Mexico to a close; if not inconsistent, in the opinion of the President, with the public service.

Mr. Cass urged the postponement of the resolution until the next day, on account of the absence of Mr. Sevier, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Mangum hoped that this would not be done—and remarked upon the hot haste and pertinacity with which Mr. Cass urged the passage of the War Bill, and the indisposition to supply the information necessary to the formation of a correct judgment on the question. Leaving this point of the debate, Mr. Mangum said he would pass to a question of vastly more importance.

In alluding to the sentiment enunciated here by the honorable Senator this morning, that it would be eminently improper for the Congress of the United States to be informed of the Executive's designs and the Executive's instructions to the Commander-in-chief of the army in Mexico. I protest, sir, most solemnly, against this attempt to exact that degree of faith from the legislative bodies of this country which shall induce them to rely on an Executive who discloses only by glimpses, not even by halves, the purposes believed to be entertained by him! I hold, sir, that the great legislative faculty of the country should not be exercised at all upon a question so momentous as this, upon mere faith reposed in the Executive branch of the Government, who does not deign to communicate to us more than glimpses of the policy. I regard it as so important that I look upon the question now pending as bringing up the great issue between despotism and liberty. I regard the measures here presented to us—only half disclosed to us—as looking to a spirit of universal domination, and an absolute conquest of the whole of Mexico. If the country is ripe for that, in my poor judgment the country is ready to surrender its free institutions. The policy, as half disclosed, by the honorable chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, in the extract from a letter which was read here the other day, it dictates, in my opinion, designs from which the inference is inevitable, and cannot be resisted, that the Executive policy seeks for universal domination in Mexico, and the conquest of the whole country. That, in my humble judgment, raises the question, distinctly and emphatically, between despotism on the one hand, and liberty on the other; and the more so, sir, as the Executive of this country does not deign to communicate to us his views, and as the honorable chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, the trusted and able organ of the Administration here, tells us to our faces that it would be improper to communicate to us the designs of the Executive. I oppose, sir, such a course of policy, and I frankly say, that under avowals of this character, anxious as I am to strengthen the arm of the Government for all legitimate purposes—an anxiety which has been evinced by all my votes upon the question—I shall feel myself driven to the necessity of refusing supplies, either of men or money, for any increment of the army, so long as this doctrine avowed by the Senator from Michigan shall be maintained.

Sir, my attention is directed to an order to which I have noticed a reference, but now seen for the first time. I will not detain the Senate by reading it. I suppose it is familiar to other Senators. I understand that this order on the part of the general commanding-in-chief is to occupy every important position throughout Mexico. [A Senator. Read the first clause.] Mr. Mangum. This is marked "order 376," and is as follows: "HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, Mexico, Dec. 15, 1847. "1. This army is about to spread itself over and to occupy the Republic of Mexico, until the latter shall sue for peace in terms acceptable to the Government of the United States." The whole of the Republic! sir, it cannot be disguised. The disguise is too thin. The veil is too transparent. All the disavowals that we have had that the President does not entertain any purpose of conquest come at last to this, that the Executive means to illustrate his administration by absorbing the whole of Mexico, if the sense of the country will sustain him. I desire to know, sir, whether the General-in-chief, for any legitimate or proper or reasonable purpose, desire, or has suggested, the increase of the army, amounting to thirty regiments, the bills for which are now upon your table? Yet we are not to have this information! It would be eminently improper to disclose the views of the Executive in regard to Mexico! Disclose them to whom, sir? Not to the Mexicans. The general order of the commander-in-chief has already disclosed his purposes, presumed to be the purpose of the Government in regard to the future policy, to the Mexicans themselves; but eminently improper to disclose them to the American people, who, I trust, are not yet ripe for the scheme of wholesale rapacity and rapine in which I fear we have already too much indulged. I hope, sir, the resolution will be adopted.

Mr. Cass replied to Mr. Mangum, and in the course of his speech made the following remarkable admissions:

Now, with the respect to the progress of the war, it is said that Gen. Scott is going on from town to town, and from city to city, conquering before him. I am very glad to hear it. I hope that the commanding General will continue to go on in this way. If he does so, I have no doubt he will conquer Mexican obstinacy, and thus conquer a peace. I have already expressed my opinion with regard to the war in Mexico, and have nothing to say on the subject now, except to tell the Senator from North Carolina what I had the honor to say to the Senator from South Carolina, that the adoption of any resolution, in this Senate with regard to any danger, if danger there be, in the progress of this war, would be but as the idle wind. You might as well stand by the entrance of Niagara, and say to its waters "flow not," as to the American people, "annex not territory," if they choose to annex it. It is the refusal of the Mexican people to do us justice, that prolongs this war. It is that which operates on the public mind, and leads the Senator from North Carolina to apprehend a state of things which he fears, but which for myself I do not anticipate. Let me say, Mr. President, that

it takes a great deal to kill this country. We have had an alarming crisis almost every year as long as I can recollect. I came on the public stage as a spectator before Jefferson was elected. That was a crisis. Then came the embargo crisis, the crisis of the non-intercourse, of the war, of the bank, of the tariff, of the removal of the deposits, and a score of others. But we have outlived them all, and advanced in all the elements of power and prosperity with a rapidly heretofore unknown in the history of nations. If we should swallow Mexico to-morrow I do not believe it would kill us. The Senator from North Carolina and myself may not live to see it, but I am by no means satisfied that the day will not come in which the whole of the vast country around us will form one of the most magnificent empires that the world has yet seen—glorious in its prosperity, and still more glorious in the establishment and perpetuation of the principles of free government, and the blessings which they bring with them.

The resolution was passed over until the next day, when the administration Senators voted almost in a body, against its adoption, and it was laid on the table.—Yeas 22—Nays 20.

From the New Orleans Picayune, of the 19th.

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

Military Contribution upon Mexico—The Rumors of a Peace not Confirmed.

The steamship New Orleans, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, having sailed on the 4th inst.

The news of an attack on the train under Col. Miller, is confirmed in some respects. The loss may have been exaggerated, and it will, moreover, fall principally upon foreign merchants, to whom the pack mules stolen belonged. One house is said to have lost property worth \$51,000. It was an English firm. The French and Spanish Merchants robbed were able to obtain the restoration of their goods by paying smartly, but no compromise could be made by English and American merchants. Their reliance is now upon Gen. Twiggs, who is expected to assess upon the district of Orizaba, whence the brigades came, the amount lost. In the skirmish, it is supposed three or four men of the mounted rifles were killed, and eight or ten of the Mexican muleteers. The portion of the train cut off had incautiously lagged behind. Colonel Miles could not wait for them to come up, but left a guard of twenty-five men behind, which was totally inadequate against the sudden onset of four hundred guerrillas.

The ship Ocean arrived at Vera Cruz on the 5th inst., from New York, with recruits under command of Capt. Henry, of the 3d infantry.

There has been an arrival at Vera Cruz from the city of Mexico, with dates to the 1st inst. The mail came down via Orizaba.

Gen. Scott had issued an order assessing upon the States of Mexico occupied or about to be occupied by our troops, an annual tax amounting in all to about Three Millions of Dollars. There is nothing in it looking like peace. From the Free American of the 14th inst. we copy the following items derived from the papers received from the capital:

The American Star, of the 31st December, says that it has been known that a large force of guerrillas was in the vicinity of Mexico; that the U. S. dragoons had failed to come up with them. On the 27th ult. Padre Jarama slept at San Juan Zeotihuacan, accompanied by eight hundred men. On the 28th he was at Guadalupe, with an escort of fifteen men, and proceeded as far as the garita. From thence he proceeded to Huanepantla, some nine miles from the city of Mexico, on the Queretaro road.—His cry at Guadalupe was, "long live the religion!" We hope, adds the Star, that some of our dragoons, or others, will shortly get this precious rascal in their hands.—He is bold in venturing so near the city, and cannot expect to escape apprehension and the punishment which he deserves.

A rail road meeting was to be held on the 1st. A committee, of which Col. Herbert was chairman, was to make its report in regard to the feasibility of the routes and other matters appertaining thereto. A report was made some fifteen years ago, by authority of the Mexican Government, the substance of which was to be presented to the meeting.

A rumor was afloat on the 31st ult., that Col. Withers' command, which left the city of Mexico on the evening of the 26th, for Real del Monte, had been cut to pieces when about twenty miles distant. The Star does not believe a word of it, and says it would require four or five thousand Mexicans, at least, to route the 9th infantry under Col. W.'s command, and that it is fortunate for Padre Jarama and his followers that they did not reach Guadalupe until two days after Col. Withers' command left that city.

A train will probably arrive here in the course of next week from the city of Mexico.

By this arrival the dates from Queretaro are to the 28th December. Hopes were then entertained that the approaching Congress would have a quorum, and there was much less talk of pronouncements and resolutions. A letter of the 29th says that all parties were agreed not to send Commissioners to Washington, arbitration being preferable to that state of degradation.

We find little said about a treaty of peace, but there were whispers at Queretaro of an armistice of three months being on the tapis.

We annex several letters from our intelligent correspondent:

Special Correspondence of the Picayune.

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 13th.

The Alabama Battalion has left for San Juan, to relieve the detachment of the 13th infantry at that post, which will proceed to the National Bridge, to join the other part of the Regiment. The fifth Tennessee Regiment is encamped outside of the city. I hear no rumor of their departing for the interior, but presume they will form a portion of the Anizala expedition, which I hope will get off soon.

A special courier left last night for the city of Mexico, to take up the merchants' letters, which were to have been sent by

the English Courier, who awaits the arrival of the packet. If the packet should arrive, although we have given up all hope of her doing so, she will probably be detained here until the English Legation courier makes the trip to Mexico and back, which will take five days, and she will of course be behind time on her return.

Herr Alexander is drawing crowded houses every night at the Palace. The majority of the audience are Mexicans, and the elite of the city. The Mexican ladies, who have heretofore kept themselves in obscurity, form a large portion of the audience, and appear to enjoy the performance more than any one else.

I learn that Gen. Twiggs is about to establish a semi-monthly mail between this city and Jalapa, and that the first will leave here in ambulances, under an escort of dragoons, to-morrow evening. Col. Hughes will most likely see that it is sent on in the same manner to Puebla, without delay, and so on until it reaches Mexico. The General thinks that by taking light loads, they will be able to reach Mexico in twelve days, and it is to be hoped that the enterprise will succeed, and for my part I do not think that it can do otherwise.

VERA CRUZ, Jan. 14. A small party of soldiers arrived last night from Jalapa, but they bring no news except the arrival of Col. Miles' train at that place, without any further loss or attack than what was reported to you a few days since, and on the 11th proceeded on to Mexico. Everything remains quiet on the road to the interior, and will continue to do so until there is a chance for booty.

PORTRAIT OF GEN. TAYLOR.—The following pleasant and graphic "pen and ink sketch" of General TAYLOR, is from the able pen of the Rev. Dr. WIGHTMAN, senior editor of the Southern Christian Advocate:

Daybreak overtook us just below Baton Rouge, on the left bank of the river. We have passed during the night the most picturesque portion of the river called the coast. The alluvial margin on both sides of the river spreads in breadth from 400 yards to a mile and a half. It is the garden spot of the United States. Sugar plantations touch each other, and elegant residences stretch out as far as the eye can follow the bold curves of the river.

After the run of 150 miles, the Mississippi looks not a whit narrower than at New Orleans; its average width is about three quarters of a mile. At Baton Rouge, where we touch a few minutes to take in passengers, there stands, in company with two or three other gentlemen, an elderly, plain looking man, who, after a brief leave taking, comes on board. We shove off, the breakfast bell rings, and we find our way to the table. I observed that the entrance of our new fellow-voyager occasioned a subdued remark, and brought upon him the curious glances of several spectators, and whispering to the clerk, who was about to take the head of the table, I asked who he was. "Gen. Taylor," was the reply. "Indeed!" Lucky chance, thought I, that threw me on board this craft. There was the veritable "Rough and Ready" sitting opposite to me, sipping his coffee; the most remarkable man, in many respects, on the western hemisphere.

I had missed the gorgeous spectacle of the New Orleans reception—the most magnificent affair which had ever shaken that city with excitement; but vastly better, I had him now where I could see and study the man—a man whose name belongs to history, and whose achievements place him side by side with the great captains of the world. The first thing that struck me with his simplicity, an unfeigned attribute of true greatness. He ate, and talked, and carried himself, with the unstudied ease of a little child. You would have supposed him some plain country gentleman, who dreamed of attracting a look or calling out a remark. All right in that line, thought I, but how different looking and better looking than the million of lithograph likenesses which stare you in the face at the shop windows and everywhere else, there is in the living original none of that extreme breadth between the chin and the back of the head, very little of the protrusion of the lower lip, to be found in the lithographs. In a word, they are a bundle of caricatures, one and all. He is precisely the height of your present correspondent; has a considerable sprinkling of grey hairs, is 62 years of age, erect and firm when on his feet, with one of the kindest expressions of face you ever saw.

He had on a common blue frock coat with flat buttons, the covering of which was worn off, showing that it belonged to an order of things which passed away two or three years ago. Still his dress as a whole was sufficiently becoming; though exhibiting no trace whatever of the military. As we rose from the breakfast table, I was introduced to the old hero. I told him I was from South Carolina, and rejoiced in the good fortune which had allowed me to see him, and tell him how much the people of my native State honored and loved him. His eyes filled with tears as he shook my hand warmly; and I saw that the simple assurance of love could affect profoundly a man who faced the storm of battle with a nerve that never moved.

His conversation exhibited fine, clear, common sense; without the slightest tinge of any sort of affectation or personal vanity. In the course of the day he gave me the details of the great battle of Buena Vista, the key to all the success of the American arms in Mexico. Had that field been lost, the fate of the war would have been entirely different, even though indomitable courage might in its long run have cut its way to the Mexican capital. The victory won against odds so vast, gave a prestige to American valor, that made the subsequent battles comparatively easy affairs.

But I must put a curb upon my galloping pen, or you will never see the end of this epistle. The General remained with us until after breakfast the next morning, and was landed at his own residence on the river, some distance above Natchez. I smiled to see the republican simplicity with which a couple of his negroes, field hands, who happened to be at the landing, walked up as he got on shore, and shook hands with him without doffing hat or cap, and the expression of delight with which they looked into his face as he spoke kindly and familiarly to them. Our engine bell rung as soon as he touched the shore, and we were off.

Gen. Taylor, in a very handsome letter to the Governor of Tennessee, dated New Orleans, Jan. 9, returns thanks to the Tennessee Legislature for the complimentary invitation to visit that body during its present session, but declares his inability to accept the invitation. He considers himself under the necessity of remaining in Baton Rouge and its vicinity until the close of his leave of absence.